

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 55.380

or packaging material bearing official identification to be used to identify product packed by the plant shall either be destroyed, or have the official identification completely obliterated under the supervision of a USDA representative, or, if to be used at another location, modified in a manner acceptable to the Service.

[36 FR 11795, June 19, 1971, as amended at 40 FR 20055, May 8, 1975; 42 FR 2969, Jan. 14, 1977. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 49168, Sept. 21, 1995]

§ 55.340 Supervision of marking and packaging.

(a) *Evidence of label approval.* No grader or inspector shall authorize the use of official identification on any inspected product unless he has on file evidence that such official identification or packaging material bearing such official identification has been approved in accordance with the provisions of § 55.300.

(b) *Affixing of official identification.* No official identification may be affixed to or placed on or caused to be affixed to or placed on any product or container thereof except by a grader or inspector or under the supervision of a grader or inspector or other person authorized by the Administrator. All such products shall have been inspected in accordance with the regulations in this part. The grader or inspector shall have supervision over the use and handling of all material bearing any official identification.

(c) *Labels for products sold under Government contract.* The grader or inspector-in-charge may approve labels for containers of product sold under a contract specification to governmental agencies when such product is not offered for resale to the general public: *Provided*, That the contract specifications include complete specific requirements with respect to labeling, and are made available to the grader or inspector.

§ 55.350 Accessibility of product.

Each product for which service is requested shall be so placed as to disclose

fully its class, quality, quantity, and condition as the circumstances may warrant.

§ 55.360 Certificates.

Certificates (including appeal certificates) shall be issued on forms approved by the Administrator.

§ 55.370 Certificate issuance.

(a) *Resident service.* Certificates will be issued only upon a request therefor by the applicant or AMS. When requested, an inspector shall issue a certificate covering product inspected by him. In addition, an inspector may issue a certificate covering product inspected in whole or in part by another inspector when the inspector has knowledge that the product is eligible for certification based on personal examination of the product or official inspection records.

(b) *Other than resident service.* Each inspector shall, in person or by his authorized agent, issue a certificate covering each product inspected by him. An inspector's name may be signed on a certificate by a person other than the inspector, if such person has been designated as the authorized agent of such inspector by the National Supervisor: *Provided*, That the certificate is prepared from an official memorandum of inspection signed by the inspector: *And provided further*, That a notarized power of attorney authorizing such signature has been issued to such person by the inspector and is on file in the office of the service. In such case, the authorized agent shall sign both his own and the inspector's name, e.g., "John Doe by Richard Roe."

§ 55.380 Disposition of certificates.

The original and a copy of each certificate, issued pursuant to § 55.370 and not to exceed two additional copies thereof if requested by the applicant prior to issuance, shall, immediately upon issuance, be delivered or mailed to the applicant or person designated by him. Other copies shall be filed and

retained in accordance with the disposition schedule for inspection program records.

[36 FR 11795, June 19, 1971. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977 and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 47 FR 46069, Oct. 15, 1982; 47 FR 54421, Dec. 3, 1982]

§ 55.390 Advance information.

Upon request of an applicant, all or part of the contents of any certificate issued to such applicant may be telephoned or telegraphed to him, or to any person designated by him, at his expense.

APPEALS

§ 55.400 Who may request an appeal grading or inspection or review of a grader's or inspector's decision.

An appeal grading or inspection may be requested by any interested party who is dissatisfied with the determination by a grader or inspector of the class, quality, quantity, or condition of any product, as evidenced by the USDA inspection mark and accompanying label, or as stated on a certificate and a review may be requested by the operator of an official plant with respect to a grader's or inspector's decision or on any other matter related to grading or inspection in the official plant.

§ 55.410 Where to file an appeal.

(a) *Appeal of resident grader's or inspector's grading or decision in an official plant.* Any interested party who is not satisfied with the determination of the class, quality, quantity, or condition of product which was graded or inspected by a grader or inspector in an official plant and has not left such plant, and the operator of any official plant who is not satisfied with a decision by a grader or inspector on any other matter relating to grading or inspection in such plant may request an appeal grading or inspection or review of the decision by the grader or inspector by filing such request with the grader's or inspector's immediate supervisor.

(b) *All other appeal requests.* Any interested party who is not satisfied with the determination of the class, quality, quantity, or condition of product which has left the official plant where it was

graded or inspected or which was graded or inspected other than in an official plant may request an appeal grading or inspection by filing such request with the Regional Director in the region where the product is located or with the Chief of the Grading Branch.

[36 FR 11795, June 19, 1971. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 49168, Sept. 21, 1995]

§ 55.420 How to file an appeal.

The request for an appeal grading or inspection or review of a grader's or inspector's decision may be made orally or in writing. If made orally, written confirmation may be required. The applicant shall clearly state the identity of the product, the decision which is questioned, and the reason(s) for requesting the appeal service. If such appeal request is based on the results stated on an official certificate, the original and all copies of the certificate available at the appeal grading or inspection site shall be provided to the appeal grader or inspector assigned to make the appeal grading or inspection.

[60 FR 49168, Sept. 21, 1995]

§ 55.430 When an application for an appeal grading or inspection may be refused.

When it appears to the official with whom an appeal request is filed that the reasons given in the request are frivolous or not substantial, class, quality, quantity, or that the condition of the product has undergone a material change since the original grading or inspection, or that the original lot has changed in some manner, or the Act or the regulations in this part have not been complied with, the applicant's request for the appeal grading or inspection may be refused. In such case, the applicant shall be promptly notified of the reason(s) for refusal.

[36 FR 11795, June 19, 1971. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981, as amended at 60 FR 49168, Sept. 21, 1995]

§ 55.440 Who shall perform the appeal.

(a) An appeal grading or inspection or review of a decision requested under § 55.410(a) shall be made by the grader's